

Get Involved—Contact Us Info

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There are a number of ways to become involved with our character initiative. Volunteers are welcome to join any of the Committees listed below. In addition, financial donation help support such activities as our poster awareness campaign, which promotes monthly display of character traits throughout the City of Rome.

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER ON 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faith | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Civic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Media/Community Relations |

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE ROME CHARACTER INITIATIVE (Your charitable donation is tax deductible.)

- ☐ \$25 Supporter
- ☐ \$50 Advocate
- ☐ \$75 Benefactor
- ☐ \$100 or more Philanthropist

Please make checks payable to:

Rome Character Initiative, Inc.
Attn: Dianne Schink, Treasurer
PO Box 872
Rome, NY 13442

Name:

Company/Address

Phone/Email

Rationale and History of International Association of Character Cities (IACC)

~What makes a nation great or a city a great place to live? According to Alexis de Tocqueville, nineteenth-century French social philosopher, "America is great because America is good. When America ceases to be good, she will cease to be great." Today we are seeing the truth of his prophecy, as America's greatness in productivity, ingenuity, and prosperity is being overshadowed by increased crime, juvenile delinquency, and broken families.

~The reason for this decline in America and other nations is that the character of individual citizens, decision by decision, has been eroded over the past decades, forcing leaders to deal with resulting surface problems such as overcrowded prisons and uncontrollable teenagers. In April 1998, the IACC was formed to assist leaders such as yourself in helping to make our communities good.

~Civic leaders are using their influence in a positive way by fostering a community culture where good character is encouraged and praised. However, only when character is developed on the family level will we see lasting positive change. Therefore, the IACC has a two fold strategy: first, to equip families to build character, and second, to implement character initiatives in community sectors, with the goal of reinforcing character in the family.

~I see the dawning of this new millennium as a turning point for America and the world, as leaders like yourself catch the vision for building Cities of Character and thereby make our nations great

Jonathan Stewart

General Director IACC

*"The foundations of our
national policy should be laid
in the pure principals of
private morality."*

~ George Washington



Our Mission...

The goal of The Rome Character Initiative is to increase the community's awareness of the benefits of good character and strengthen the citizens of Rome through promoting positive character qualities, encouraging respect for all, and reinforcing character in our families.

~ Jon Terrenzetti



ROME CHARACTER INITIATIVE, Inc.
The Key to Success!

LIVE A LIFE THAT MATTERS

A group of 26 of Rome's citizens began our effort at a meeting in City Hall in February 2005 when enthusiastic leaders discussed the Character City concept. Since then, a non-profit organization called the Rome Character Initiative has been formed and is now incorporated. This will lead us on our way to become one of the five other Rome Initiatives providing city-wide support.

On October 15, 2005, Rome's Mayor James F. Brown proclaimed , CHARACTER CITY DAY in Rome, New York. A following summit workshop on Character began encouraging Rome's citizenry to "Live a life that matters!"

Rome is now an International Character City and we are asking you to take the opportunity to consider what you might do to help the cause. This organization has elected a board of 15 members who meet monthly. Our agenda is growing and the more volunteers and funding the merrier. Check our website www.romeci.com for events and activities we have planned. Here are some of our past and present functions:

...April 2, 2006 marked our first character outreach event - Family Day at Rome Free Academy, organized by the Family and Education Committees. In the summer, along with RFA students, we enjoyed a Dr. Seuss float in the Honor America Days parade celebrating diversity. We also like to have a presence at select public events, such as the Rome Home Show and Canalfest. These places offer opportunities to promote recruitment and exposure of our mission.

...We have embarked on an ongoing city-wide Character Trait Poster Distribution. Through the monthly display of a different character trait defined on our posters, we hope to touch as many school classrooms, churches, businesses and store fronts in Rome. If one witnesses a "random show of character" by an individual, we would like to publicly celebrate the act by a certificate and press release.

...For the Christmas Holiday season, we will be selling a family character instruction book called, Achieving True Success: How To Build Character As A Family. This book is filled with beautiful photographs and graphics and is easy on the eye to read.



Rome Character Initiative, Inc

"Live a Life that Matters!"

The City of Rome is dedicated to creating a culture of character as the key to success, placing a priority on an individual's responsibility for their

Character development within the family... is central to initiating character enhancement throughout our community. Families working together have the ability to be the primary source and driving force for the occurrence of a societal shift toward excellence in character.

Character in the faith community... unites the entire family around embracing character development through faith in a power greater than ourselves.

Character in town government... provides the opportunity for leaders to model and advocate for excellence in character in a high profile manner.

Character education in school... complements character development in the home, strengthening conviction to a strong moral foundation for our youngest citizens.

Character in law enforcement... establishes and secures trust in the community by enforcing laws with moral authority while exemplifying excellence in character to diminish the tolerance for crime and risk-taking behaviors.

Character in the workplace... impacts employees' lives on an individual level, strengthening and supporting their commitment to embrace quality of character, thereby improving productivity and morale.

Character in military organizations... reinforces the commitment to responsible citizenship, benevolence and dedicated to our community's patriotism.

Character highlighted by the media... gives excellence in character demonstrated throughout the community, the attention, reinforcement and glory it deserves.

Character in our Youth Organizations... helps the community to raise responsible adults.

Character in our Health and Fitness professions... encourages healthy life styles and benevolence to our less fortunate citizens.

Our Goals

We will endeavor to gain the support of our community leaders in modeling and promoting good character.

We will learn how character is built into the lives of individuals and adopt character initiatives that apply to each sector within our community.

We will strive to establish a community culture that encourages, recognizes and rewards good character.

We will assess all of our activities on a regular basis to ensure we are making progress toward our goal of becoming a town known for the good character of its citizens.



*"To educate a person in mind
and not in morals is to educate a
menace to society."*

~ Theodore Roosevelt